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Anti-Terrorism Advisory Council
NEWSLETTER



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THE ROAD THROUGH 9/11
.....
A CHRONOLOGY



<http://cnparam.home.texas.net/911/Intro.htm>

Continue your travel through time ... see:

Counterterrorism after AlQaeda

http://www.cia.gov/nic/articles_after_al_qaeda.htm

It's not so much *what folks don't know* that's the problem.
It's that *they know too much... that ain't so ...* that's the problem !

Employer Toolkit on Terrorism Preparedness Released

The National Business Group on Health, representing over 200 member companies, announced the release of an employer toolkit on emergency and terrorism preparedness to bridge communications between businesses and public health organizations. Developed through the collaborative efforts of public, private, and government organizations, the new resource, *An Employer Toolkit: Terrorism Preparedness & Planning: A Public/Private Partnership*, was launched 1 September to coincide with National Preparedness Month. The toolkit was designed to provide large employers with pertinent and timely information about practical emergency planning and response strategies, working with public health, sharing plans, and coordinating efforts. "When terrorists attacked the World Trade Center and anthrax threatened many people, Americans were at work," said Helen Darling, President of the National Business Group on Health, adding that the attacks caused employers "to rethink what they must be prepared for and how they should respond." Partially funded through a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the National Business Group on Health developed the toolkit with a number of Fortune 500 employers, including General Electric, Ford Motors, American Express, IBM, Raytheon, and Marriott International as well as public health organizations such as the American Red Cross, Federal Emergency Management Agency, American Hospital Association, and National Association of County and City Health Officials. The toolkit includes information such as a summary and analysis of business communications during the anthrax attacks of 2001, a case study of an emergency drill carried out with a large media company in New York, and the latest CDC information on biological and chemical agents such as anthrax and ricin. For more information or to download the toolkit visit <http://www.businessgrouphealth.org>.

ANALYSIS:

The release of the employer toolkit follows a recent poll showing that 37 percent of Americans were not familiar with their workplace's plan for dealing with an emergency or terrorist attack. The National Business Group on Health research also found that "public health agencies weren't fully equipped to handle the needs of employers, and employers weren't used to navigating the public health system." Although the toolkit is intended to help establish the infrastructure needed to ensure America's workforce will be better prepared to respond to emergency events in the future, Darling noted, "There is not a one-size-fits-all approach to preparedness...Each employer has a unique set of threats and opportunities related to a number of factors, including worksite location and corporate and community resources."

Learning to be safe

The term "homeland security" conjures a number of images, but an academic cap and gown probably isn't one of them. Yet several institutions of higher learning now offer classes and majors as well as graduate degrees in subjects directly related to the Cabinet department's mission of protecting Americans from terrorism. The federally funded Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, Calif., for example, in June awarded master's degrees in the subject to 12 students for studies conducted largely over the Internet.

Full story: <http://washingtontimes.com/metro/20040829-094933-9269r.htm>

"The best defense against terrorism is a sincere commitment by Americans to actively learn all they can about terrorist activity..."

Back to school – and campus safety concern

University of Illinois officials are geared up, as they are every fall, for the arrival of new students. But with the anniversary of the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11 coming up, campus police and academic leaders are faced with preparing students and staff for the possibilities of terrorist activities, in addition to the usual preparation for safely living and learning on campus. The first priority, according to UI Police Chief O.J. Clark, is to prevent terrorism from happening. To do that, the law enforcement agencies need the students, faculty and staff to be alert and to report any suspicious activity. "It has to be a shared responsibility," Clark said. "The best defense against terrorism is a sincere commitment by Americans to actively learn all they can about terrorist activity by listening to or reading information from the terrorism experts,"

Full story: <http://www.news-gazette.com/story.cfm?Number=16682>

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"We have shown weakness in the face of danger and the weak get beaten up,"... Putin



Putin vows tough response to "all-Out War" by terrorists as death toll in school rises above 340

A shaken President Vladimir Putin made a rare and candid admission of Russian weakness Saturday in the face of an "all-out war" by terrorists after more than 340 people - nearly half of them children - were killed in a hostage-taking at a southern school.

Full story: <http://ap.tbo.com/ap/breaking/MGBUDTWFOYD.html>

Chechen attacks for independence

President Vladimir Putin depicts rebels in Chechnya as part of the international terrorist threat spearheaded by al-Qaida. But analysts say the Chechen insurgency remains largely a nationalist movement aimed at winning independence from Russia. Putin's frequent statements are widely seen as an effort to diminish Western criticism of the heavy-handed campaign to pacify the southern republic by linking the fighters to the main U.S. target in the war on terrorism. "It's the best way to avoid any kind of criticism" Though the Chechen insurgents have received help from foreign fighters and turned more devoutly Islamic in recent years, analysts say the fragmented movement remains more focused on conflict with Russia than on "jihad" or "holy war" against America, Israel or the Western world in general. "But in a situation where we are continuing this 10-year war with all its brutality, it's more or less natural that this resistance becomes open for all these wild ideas that come from the Middle East, with money, instructors and adventurers."

Full story: <http://www.ds-osac.org/view.cfm?key=7E4356424452&type=2B170C1E0A3A0F162820>

Cleric supports targeting children



An extremist Islamic cleric based in Britain said yesterday that he would support hostage-taking at British schools if carried out by terrorists with a just cause. Omar Bakri Mohammed, the spiritual leader of the extremist sect al-Muhajiroun, said that holding women and children hostage would be a reasonable course of action for a Muslim who has suffered under British rule. "As long as the Iraqi did not deliberately kill women and children, and they were killed in the crossfire, that would be okay." "The Mujahideen [Chechen rebels] would not have wanted to kill those people, because it is strictly forbidden as a Muslim to deliberately kill women and children. It is the fault of the Russians," he said.

Full story: <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/main.jhtml?xml=/news/2004/09/05/wosse705.xml>

Islam has to silence inciters of terrorism

It is a certain fact that not all Muslims are terrorists, but it is equally certain, and exceptionally painful, that almost all terrorists are Muslims. The hostage-takers of children in Beslan, North Ossetia, were Muslims. The kidnapers and subsequent murderers of the Nepalese workers in Iraq were also Muslims. Those involved in rape and murder in Darfur, Sudan, are Muslims, with other Muslims chosen to be their victims. Those responsible for the attacks on residential towers in Riyadh and Khobar were Muslims. The two women who crashed two airplanes last week were also Muslims.

Full story:

http://www.mirror.co.uk/news/allnews/tm_objectid=14608737&method=full&siteid=50143&headline=islam-has-to-silence-inciters-of-terrorism-name_page.html

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Russian rebels had precise plan

Inside the charred, bullet-pocked wreckage of Middle School No. 1, there lies evidence of the terror Russia faces: Two parts of the library's wooden floor had been pried up, evidently by the heavily armed attackers who seized the school last week and held more than 1,100 hostages for 52 hours. Beneath the boards, investigators now suspect, the attackers had secreted a cache of weapons or other equipment weeks and perhaps months before their attack - possibly during a seemingly innocuous summer renovation, officials said. The attackers - described by the authorities as including Chechens, Ingush, ethnic Russians and some still-unidentified foreigners - seemed to follow a plan after they seized the school with precision and alacrity, forcing their hostages to help place explosives and build barricades that limited the options of Russian forces outside. The careful planning evident in the school siege not only allowed the attackers to



herd more than 1,000 hostages into a gymnasium. With ample stores of weapons and ammunition, including explosive projectiles that can be fired by grenade launchers and specialized sniper cartridges, the planning also allowed them to fight hundreds of Russian police, military and security forces for more than 10 hours after two explosions inside the school, which witnesses said appeared to go off accidentally, brought the crisis to its violent end. Officials have said the siege, like the other attacks, was masterminded by Mr. Basayev and financed by a man believed to be an Arab associated with Al Qaeda and identified as Abu Omar as-Seyf. Russian officials cited in official news reports say the attack itself was led by Magomed Yevloyev, who has been previously described as the commander of rebel forces operating in Ingushetia.

Full story: <http://www.theledger.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20040906/ZNYT03/409060423>

Related reporting:

When the killers come for the kids

The mass murder of children revolts the human psyche. Herod sending his henchmen to massacre the infants of Bethlehem haunts the Gospels. Nothing in our time was crueler than what the Germans did to children during the Holocaust. Slaughtering the innocents violates a universal human taboo. Or a nearly universal one. Those Muslims who preach Jihad against the West decided years ago that killing Jewish or Christian children is not only acceptable, but pleasing to their god when done by "martyrs."

<http://www.nypost.com/postopinion/opedcolumnists/28066.htm>

Russian Muslims condemn school hostage-taking

The religious council for North Caucasian Muslims said the hostage taking is "a heinous terrorist crime" that inflicted pain and suffering on families of the hostages. The council described the kidnapers as "savages", as they had kidnapped "innocent children who have nothing to do with the practices of the incumbent officials".

<http://www.islam-online.net/English/News/2004-09/02/article05.shtml>

Arab world harshly condemns slaughter of Russian children

Expressions of shame and self-reproach swept the Arab world yesterday as Muslims mourned the deaths of Russian schoolchildren and voiced unusually critical condemnations of the social ills widely blamed here for breeding terrorism.

http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/nationworld/2002026944_russarab05.html

Facing Al-Qaida in 2010

The war against terrorism is going to last a long time, as President Bush and other officials have said, and predicting the future is always uncertain. But as we consider the evolution of this protracted conflict, we should be aware of one high probability: that the al-Qaida we will face in 2010 will be an even more dangerous threat to America than the al-Qaida our troops are fighting today. Following the historical pattern of terrorist movements everywhere - from Russia's Bolsheviks to the Irish Republican Army to Palestine's Hamas - we can expect that within a decade al-Qaida will open one, or possibly several, political fronts in predominantly Islamic states, transforming itself from a deadly but diffuse terrorist movement into implacably hostile governmental factions throughout the Middle East that will pose critical challenges to America and our allies. Unspoken, but certainly assumed, in the al-Qaida agenda is the installation of more pious Islamic regimes, or even, ultimately, a resurrection of a pan-Islamic caliphate like the Ottoman Empire, long a dream of Middle Eastern Islamic radicals. As al-Qaida transforms, it's

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likely to follow three well-beaten paths.

First, it will continue terrorist operations worldwide, with an effort to coordinate ever more spectacular attacks with specific events in Western countries.

Second, al-Qaida will become more engaged in exploiting its grass-roots appeal in the Middle East, particularly through charities and services that speak to the basic needs of the region's people.

Finally, al-Qaida, or political branches that may not bear the same name, will find positions in the government of one or several nations, perversely exploiting the very democracy that the United States is seeking to nourish in the region.

Preventing al-Qaida's successful transition to a new stage of political power is the United States' greatest strategic challenge today.

Full story: <http://www.borrull.org/e/noticia.php?id=39339>



Afghans face violent short cut to democracy

A Taliban bombing campaign is expected to herald Afghanistan's historic presidential polls on October 9, but after a quarter-century of foreign occupation, civil war, and Taliban rule, Afghans are philosophical. Close to 1,000 people, including civilians, election workers and aid workers, as well as combatants, have been killed in the past 12 months as the Taliban, al Qaeda and their allies have stepped up their campaign of violence. But despite fears of worse to come, some -- notably in Washington -- see the polls, which U.S.-backed President Hamid Karzai is favorite to win, as the best hope for stability. "There is a saying: 'Forget your troubles, there'll be more tomorrow'," said Hamidullah Tarzi, a former minister and an academic and writer.

Full story: <http://www.ds-osac.org/view.cfm?key=7E4356424B55&type=2B170C1E0A3A0F162820>

Hamid Karzai background

<http://www.worldhistory.com/wiki/H/Hamid-Karzai.htm>



Bosnian Muslims and Croats infuriated by Hague verdict

The United Nations war Crimes court in the Hague cleared a former Bosnian Serb politician of genocide on Sept. 1, sparking outrage in Bosnia's Muslim and Croatian communities. Despite the handing down of a 32- year sentence for war crimes and crimes against humanity, Radoslav Brdjanin was acquitted on the most serious charge, which stemmed from his alleged role in orchestrating ethnic-cleansing in the Bosnian Krajina region during the 1992-1995 civil war. A member of Bosnia's Muslim-Croat Commission for Missing People cited the discovery of over 110 mass graves as proof that the Hague's decision was ill-founded and would set a dangerous precedent for future prosecutions.

COMMENT:

The Hague's verdict comes just after an Aug. 30 announcement by Bosnian Serb authorities that they plan to try 140 Muslims and Croats for war crimes in local courts. It is unclear what effect today's decision will have upon the pending trials in Republika Srpska, or on the Hague trial of former Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic.



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Officials work at digging out al-Qaida's U.S. presence



As President Bush touted his record in the war on terror Thursday night at Madison Square Garden, another front in the terrorism fight was playing out nearby in the federal holding cell of a Pakistani-American named Mohammed Junaid Babar. Babar is a cooperating witness in an unfolding investigation of a potential New York-based "sleeper cell" that authorities suspect may be involved in al-Qaida efforts to launch attacks on U.S. soil, perhaps during the upcoming election season. The investigation remains nearly invisible to the public, and federal authorities and defense lawyers have refused to discuss it. But unsealed court documents show that Babar, 29, has admitted meeting with senior members of al-Qaida in remote South Waziristan in Pakistan earlier this year as part of a scheme to smuggle money, night-vision goggles and other equipment to the terrorist network. On June 3, he secretly pleaded guilty to charges of providing material support to a terrorist organization, al-Qaida, and agreed to cooperate in ongoing investigations. "I understood that the money and supplies that I had given to al-Qaida was supposed to be used in Afghanistan against U.S. or international forces," Babar told the court.

Full story: <http://www.trivalleyherald.com/Stories/0,1413,86~10669~2380336,00.html>

Related Reporting:

Unraveling the threads of terrorism

"I did grow up there. (Queens, NY) But that doesn't mean my loyalty is with the Americans," said Babar in a November 2001 interview. "My loyalty will, has always been, is, and forever will be with the Muslims."

<http://msnbc.msn.com/id/5675385/>

Fears summit foreshadows US blitz

A US official described those at the Pakistan summit as "cold-blooded killers who are very skilled at what they do and have an intense desire to inflict an awful lot of pain and suffering on America".

http://www.theaustralian.news.com.au/common/story_page/0,5744,10468339%255E2703,00.html

al-Qaida Suspect Came From Iran

<http://www.newsday.com/news/nationworld/wire/sns-ap-pakistan-al-qaida,0,3847527.story?coll=sns-ap-nationworld-headlines>

Border on alert for Al Qaeda terrorists

Al Qaeda cells - each group having from seven to fifteen suspected terrorist members can be found just across the Rio Grande Valley in Mexico. "We know from intelligence reports that there are middle easterners that are making their way in our direction," "We don't know their purpose, but we do know that they are there and those reports are coming in increasing numbers. So it should be a wake-up call." Another major concern is the increasing number of Central and South American immigrants who are coming into the country. "We do have a very serious problem..." "The Salvatrucha gangs are very serious, very viscous and we have confirmed that they have had contact with Al Qaeda,"

Full story: <http://www.team4news.com/Global/story.asp?S=2254265&nav=0w0vQXKN>

Al Qaeda's Tech Traps

Investigations, arrests highlight how technology aids and weakens terror network.

Al Qaeda operatives may be comfortable crossing ancient deserts and employing guerrilla tactics, but they're also adept at using with the Web and computers. The arrest of alleged Pakistani terrorist Mohammad Naeem Noor Khan, captured this summer with 51 optical discs and three computers chock-full of terror intelligence, is the most recent indicator of just how technically adept terror groups have become. Computer and terrorist experts say Khan is one of many central nodes in a decentralized network of terrorists who have been using the Internet and cutting-edge technology as a way to organize terror campaigns and promote their cause online. "In the post-September 11 climate, Islamic extremists see the Internet as a vital tool to communicate, indoctrinate, and spread their message," says Mark Rasch, former Justice Department computer crimes prosecutor and current chief security counsel for [Solutionary](#), a managed computer security provider. "They are very tech savvy and they know how to avoid being caught," Rasch adds.

Full story: <http://www.pcworld.com/news/article/0,aid,117658,00.asp>

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Officials say Iran preparing to enrich enough uranium for four nuclear weapons

Raising new alarms about Iran, the Bush administration concluded Wednesday that the country is getting ready to produce enough enriched uranium for four nuclear weapons. "We view with great concern" revelations in a classified report circulated among member governments by the U.N. International Atomic Energy Agency that Iran is about to convert 37 tons of "yellowcake" uranium into uranium hexafluoride gas. Uranium hexafluoride is spun in centrifuges to produce enriched uranium, which in turn can be used to generate power or make nuclear warheads, depending on the degree of enrichment.

Full story: <http://ap.tbo.com/ap/breaking/MGBLNXI7MYD.html>

Related Reporting

IAEA report will not rule on Iran nuclear programme: diplomats

http://www.channelnewsasia.com/stories/afp_world/view/101528/1/.html

COMMENT:

New IAEA Report Takes Softer Line With Iran

The new International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) report on Iran's nuclear program takes a softer line with Iran. The report, released to the press Sept. 1 claims that Iran's explanation that its nuclear enrichment machinery was contaminated before it reached the Islamic Republic and not by Iranian experiments is "plausible." The IAEA report also agreed to close its investigation into the use of lasers to enrich uranium, saying that full details were provided by Iran. The close of the investigation means that equipment will now only be subject to periodic inspections. But the report also cautions that questions remain about the presence of P2 centrifuges in Iran. The new report takes a much softer line with Iran than the one released three months ago. The last report nearly caused a rift between the IAEA and Iran, with the Islamic Republic threatening to withdraw from the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT). Iran welcomed the new report, but continued to pursue a plan to enrich 37 tons of raw yellowcake uranium. Such an action will allow Iran to produce enough enriched Uranium for 1-5 nuclear bombs. The U.S. jumped on this fact to claim that the enrichment activity proved that Iran is developing a nuclear weapons program and should be referred to the U.N. Security Council. Such an action appears unlikely because few countries support the U.S. demand. The softer tone of the IAEA report is likely to please Iran and European countries negotiating with Iran over its nuclear program.

CIA, Pentagon fight special ops plan

Opening a rare window into a secret world, the CIA and the Pentagon are publicly fighting a proposal to centralize under Department of Defense control the U.S. covert paramilitary operations used increasingly in recent years in Afghanistan and elsewhere. The commission that investigated the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks recommended the change, but CIA and defense leaders insist they are not convinced of the need. They say CIA paramilitaries and military special operations forces each have distinct capabilities but work well together. Besides, they say, there are some things that only the CIA can do.

Full story: <http://www.showmenews.com/2004/Aug/20040830News013.asp>

Security concerns seen as boon for Mobile Satellite Services

Mobile satellite service providers view the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) as a potentially large market as state and local agencies, either with their own funding or money from DHS, integrate satellite communications into their emergency-preparedness planning. Walt Gorman, director of specialized services at Globalstar of Milpitas, which operates a mobile satellite communications constellation, tells the story of a terrorist scare at the Dallas airport that forced the evacuation of the facility. "You had 3,000 people getting on their cell phones at the same time," Gorman said. "The network was overloaded. It's this type of scenario we are trying to educate people about. After 9/11, some fire departments and individuals bought one or another form of emergency communications, and then stuck the equipment in a closet."

Full story: http://www.space.com/spacenews/businessmonday_040830.html

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Featured Internet Site

National Preparedness Month

Throughout the month of September, hundreds of activities are planned to highlight the importance of individual emergency preparedness. The National Preparedness Month coalition, which includes the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, more than 80 organizations and all 56 states and territories, will encourage Americans to take simple steps now to prepare themselves and their families for any possible emergencies.

<http://www.dhs.gov/dhspublic/display?content=3963>

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